

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN APRIL 2004

All percentages in the report were computed based on the unrounded data. Producers mined 1.40 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in April 2004 (table 1). Output was slightly more than that of March 2004, and 4% more than that of April 2003. Synthetic gypsum production was 720,000 metric tons (t) in April 2004 (table 1), which was slightly more than that of March 2004, and 9% more than that of April 2003. Synthetic gypsum production increased over that of 2002, owing to new synthetic-gypsum-sourced wallboard plants that came online in 2003. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. During January through March 2004, synthetic gypsum accounted for 2.04 Mt, or about 25%, of the 8.13 Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 462,000 t (table 2), 22% more than that of March 2004 and slightly less than that of April 2003.

Output of calcined gypsum for April (table 1) was 1.98 Mt, about the same as that of March 2004 and 12% more than that of April 2003. Sales of board products were about 2.9 billion square feet (269 million square meters), 7% less than that of March 2004 and 11% more than that of April 2003.

U.S. Government import and export data for April 2004 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in March 2004 were 806,000 t (table 3), 44% more than that of February 2004 and 21% more than that of March 2003. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Canada, for March 2004 were 55,000 t, equivalent to 53 million square feet (6.1 million square meters). These imports were 25% more than that of February 2004 and 77% more than those of March 2003. Wallboard exports to 24 countries and territories in March 2004 were 5,500 t, equivalent to 6.6 million square feet (612,000 square meters). These exports were 12% more than those of February 2004 and 62% more than those of March 2003.

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1, 2}

(Metric tons)

	2004			2003
	April	March	January-April ³	January-April
Crude:				
Mined ⁴	1,400,000	1,390,000	5,400,000	5,250,000
Imported ⁵	NA	806,000	NA	2,370,000
Exported ⁵	NA	13,500	NA	86,400
Synthetic gypsum ⁶	720,000	712,000	2,760,000	2,650,000
Total supply	NA	2,890,000	NA	10,200,000
Calcined:				
Produced	1,980,000	1,980,000	7,590,000 ^r	6,890,000
Imported ⁷	NA	381	NA	2,050
Exported ⁷	NA	29,300	NA	128,000
Total supply	NA	1,950,000	NA	6,760,000

^rRevised. NA Not available.

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Includes revisions to previous months' data.

⁴Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

⁵Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

⁶Reported production only.

⁷Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000.

TABLE 2
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE^{1, 2}

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2004			2003
	April	March	January-April ³	January-April
Uncalcined: ⁴				
Portland cement	328,000	247,000	1,010,000	1,080,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	134,000	133,000	522,000	831,000
Total	462,000	380,000	1,530,000	1,910,000
Calcined:				
Board products ⁵	2,420,000	2,600,000	9,390,000	8,530,000
Plaster	14,700	15,800	56,000	112,000
Total	2,430,000	2,610,000	9,450,000 ^r	8,640,000
Board products: (Thousand square feet) ⁶				
Regular board	1,770,000	1,900,000	6,910,000	6,200,000
Type X board	859,000	933,000	3,330,000	3,090,000
Other	266,000	283,000	1,020,000	944,000
Total supply	2,900,000	3,120,000	11,300,000	10,200,000

^rRevised.

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Includes revisions to previous months' data.

⁴Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

⁵Includes weight of paper and other materials.

⁶One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION¹

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2004			2003
	March	February	January-March	January-March
Argentina	--	--	--	18
Austria	--	--	--	14
Canada	545,000	383,000	1,430,000	1,060,000
Costa Rica	15	--	15	--
Dominican Republic	6,540	18,000	24,600	38,500
Guatemala	--	--	--	22
Italy	16,400	--	16,400	--
Mexico	166,000	121,000	455,000	388,000
Spain	72,600	37,100	197,000	220,000
Sweden	--	--	--	2
United Kingdom	--	--	1	18
Total	806,000	560,000	2,130,000	1,700,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption ³	Production ⁴	Imports ⁵	Exports ⁵
2003:				
February	1,810	1,340	478	16
March	1,670	1,010	668	12
April	1,990	1,350	663	14
May	1,990	1,410	594	11
June	1,950	1,340	623	12
July	2,240	1,380	875	16
August	2,150	1,320	834	12
September	2,120	1,440	696	15
October	2,210	1,510	713	13
November	2,070	1,310	766	13
December	2,120	1,300	830	17
January-December	24,400	16,300	8,300	167
2004:				
January	2,100	1,350	761	13
February	1,810	1,260	559	12
March	2,180	1,390	806	14
April	NA	1,400	NA	NA

NA Not available.

¹Excludes synthetic gypsum.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

³Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting the exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

⁴Production data are from the semiannual gypsum canvasses of the non-wallboard producers, annual canvass of all producers, and from monthly data furnished by the Gypsum Association from the wallboard producers.

⁵Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGION^{1, 2}

(Thousand square feet)³

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
2004:											
April:											
Lath	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Veneer base	25,300	2,680	7,180	852	8,850	23	95	410	1,710	29	47,100
Sheathing	1,290	4,330	4,800	6,470	14,500	2,490	11,000	5,300	9,850	1,350	61,400
Regular gypsum board	45,600	153,000	225,000	107,000	518,000	124,000	210,000	164,000	197,000	31,700	1,770,000
Type X gypsum board	26,700	88,400	123,000	65,000	142,000	28,900	86,100	98,900	193,000	6,330	859,000
Predecorated board	235	638	817	447	1,250	346	738	307	466	52	5,290
5/16 Mobile home board	--	1,150	5,240	--	9,250	11,100	8,050	938	1,220	--	36,900
Water/moisture resistant board	5,590	20,000	15,500	5,860	25,000	4,330	10,700	8,960	15,300	3,940	115,000
Total	105,000	270,000	381,000	185,000	719,000	171,000	327,000	279,000	419,000	43,400	2,900,000
January- April:											
Lath	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Veneer base	92,800	11,200	31,800	3,350	36,300	88	279	1,240	6,370	271	184,000
Sheathing	4,940	15,300	17,100	21,800	53,300	10,300	45,800	23,200	34,600	5,170	231,000
Regular gypsum board	176,000	590,000	903,000	458,000	1,960,000	480,000	831,000	644,000	754,000	120,000	6,910,000
Type X gypsum board	102,000	329,000	480,000	265,000	545,000	116,000	359,000	393,000	712,000	28,400	3,330,000
Predecorated board	1,010	2,400	3,580	1,970	5,000	1,550	3,120	1,440	2,370	201	22,700
5/16 Mobile home board	--	3,810	17,200	--	36,200	43,200	27,000	3,370	4,160	36	135,000
Water/moisture resistant board	21,600	78,300	63,500	25,900	95,600	17,900	44,300	35,100	59,500	13,400	455,000
Total	398,000	1,030,000	1,520,000	776,000	2,730,000	669,000	1,310,000	1,100,000	1,570,000	167,000	11,300,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals show

²Sales region equivalent to U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Division as follows: New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT); Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA); East North Central (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI); West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD); South Atlantic (DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV); East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN); West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX); Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY); Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA).

³One square meter equals 10.78 square feet

Source: Gypsum Association.